



## Gold King Mine Spill 08/08/2015 – 1900 CDT Bullets

### Update on Current Activities

All eight samples points were sampled today. Impacts of the spill were visible at all sampling locations.

OSC Hayes participated in a Community Meeting with NMED and other local officials. Several topics were discussed including

- if and when drinking water wells would be sampled and by whom
- when and where the results from the sampling will be made available to the public
- is EPA looking into reimbursement for state and locals
- concerns were discussed regarding the effect of the spill on livestock and irrigation
- will sediment sampling be done
- concerns were voiced about the current status at the mine site and Region 8
- questions were asked regarding the tardiness of notification
- a representative of the Navajo Nation requested that EPA meet with them on Monday in Arizona (this will be passed on to Region 9.)

The release of water at the spill site is now down to 548 gallons/per minute, the water is being treated with caustic soda and flocculants in settlement ponds prior to release.

The plume is moving at approximately 2.5 miles per hour in the San Juan River. ASPECT completed afternoon surveys from Ship Rock to Durango. Preliminary analysis of images indicate that as of 1515 the plume leading edge is estimated to be just past Nenahnezad, NM, approximately 9 miles west of Farmington.

### Planned Activities

The Mobile Command Post will arrive in New Mexico late Sunday evening. In addition by tomorrow morning, EPA staff will increase to 2 OSC's and 2 drinking water staff in addition to the nine START contractors.

Sampling will continue in the same manner tomorrow, with the same eight sites being revisited.

A draft sampling plan is being developed to address sampling and analysis of sediment and well-water. This plan is being developed jointly by Region 6, 8 and 9.

New Mexico is asking residents with that have concerns about their private water wells to bring samples to them at the County Fair in Farmington, EPA will team up the state in this effort.

EPA and contractor staffing for tomorrow is as follows:

<b>Group</b>	<b>Number</b>
Region 6 EPA @ REOC	10
Region 6 Contractors @ REOC	2
Region 6 EPA in Field (R6)	5
Region 6 Contractors in Field	9